

Daycare Details

SEPTEMBER 2011

Changes in CCAP Statute—From DHS

A. Child Care Provider Maximum Rates

Effective October 31, 2011, legislative changes to Minnesota Statutes, section 119B.13, subdivision 1 and 1a, reduce all maximum child care provider rates by 2.5%. Maximum

registration fees are also reduced by 2.5%. Due to timelines necessary to integrate the changes into MEC2 this provision will be implemented November 28, 2011.

E. Weekly and Daily payment limits

Effective April 16, 2012, legislative changes to Minnesota Statutes, section 119B.13, subdivision 1 and

1a, limits child care assistance payments for one day to the daily rate and for one week to the weekly rate.

G. Activity fees and nonstandard hours

Effective September 3, 2012, a legislative change to Minnesota Statutes, section 119B.13,

subdivision 1, eliminates nonstandard hour differential payments and payments for activity fees.

H. Absent day payment policy

Effective January 1, 2013, a legislative change to Minnesota Statutes, section 119B.13, subdivision 7, eliminates absent day payments for LNL family child care providers

and limits absent day payments to 10 days per calendar year for licensed providers and license exempt centers, with no exceptions.

Modifications will be made to MEC2 to support these changes. DHS will send an informational notice to families and providers about the legislative changes shortly.

The information from this article was taken from MN DHS Bulletin #11-68-08 dated 9-7-2011, Child Care Assistance Program Modifications Enacted by the 2011 Legislature.

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Take It Outside Week

RESTON, VA, August 29, 2011-- To increase outdoor play while celebrating the environment, Head Start Body Start National Center for Physical Development and Outdoor Play (HSBS), the national initiative sponsored by the National Association for Sport and Physical Education (NASPE) and the American Association for Physical Activity and Recreation (AAPAR), will host the second annual Take It Outside! Week, October 16 –

22. The purpose of the week-long celebration is to get young children outside, connect with the natural world, while tapping into the many health benefits of outdoor play, including increased moderate to vigorous activity, vitamin D exposure, increased immunity and better sleep as well as playing more creatively.

Take It Outside! Week is also a great opportunity to support First Lady Michelle Obama's new Let's Move! Child Care Campaign which encourages day care



facilities and home-based providers to provide 1-2 hours of physical activity throughout the day, including outside play when possible.

Continued page 5

Look Out! It's An Octopus!

Use a screw to drill a hole near the top of a clean, de-labeled plastic soda bottle, and near the bottom. Fill the bottle halfway with water, replace the cap, and you're ready to perform magic. When you cover the top hole with a finger, nothing flows out of the bottom. Remove your finger, and out pours the water.

Now add more holes. Kids love watching air bubbles float upward when the bottle was submerged. Once it is filled

with water, point out how the holes, while all the same size, produced different sized streams, and how the streams changed as the water level decreases in the bottle we called the "leaky boat." (Watching streams of water flying in all directions like tentacles, a child age 5, yelled, "It's an octopus!" A much better name.)

Ask the kids... How will water flow change if you block different holes or add

holes?

What's going on? Water can't escape from the bottle unless something else (here it is air) can take its place. With multiple holes of the same size, greater pressure makes bigger streams, such as at the bottom of the bottle, where there is more weight from water.



To get more timely
information
RE: training
opportunities
supply us with
your email
address.

E-Mail Addresses

Quite often we licensors at St. Louis County are emailed information on upcoming trainings. Unfortunately for our providers, many times the email is sent out last minute and we are unable to provide the training information to you.

In order to become more efficient and to provide you

with up to date, accurate training information we are asking for your email address. There are 2 ways you can provide us with your email address :

1. Call your licensor with the information
2. Send an email to childcare@stlouiscountymn.gov

If you received this newsletter electronically, we already have your email address and you don't need to contact us.

Thank you for your cooperation.



Infant Sleep Space Reminder

The licensing rule (9502.0425 Subp. 9) instructs that a crib, portable crib or playpen with waterproof mattress or pad must be provided for each infant or newborn in care. Also, the Human Services Licensing Act (245A.146 Subd.4 (5)) instructs no heights of the rail and end panel are less than 26 inches

when measured from the top of the rail or panel in the highest position to the top of the mattress support in the lowest position. You are required to check this measurement every month when you do the required crib inspection. Bassinets DO NOT meet these standards and may never be used in a licensed program. If

you have a bassinet in your program, remove it today! Bassinets are not safe!!

Reminder: If there are any holes in the mesh of your pack and play, it must be taken out of service immediately.

Legislative Update—2011

The following is a briefing that DHS has sent. It is recommended that you take a look at the legislation that just passed. We haven't received any specific directions as of yet. But you need to be aware of the potential decrease in funding.

To Be very clear that this is from MN Legislators agreement for balancing the State budget and result of the compromise that Dayton signed with them.

Services for children and families

*Fully funded (with \$6.2 million) expected growth in Adoption Assistance and Relative Custody Assistance for approximately 7,000 families to meet the special needs of children under state guardianship who have been adopted.

*Reduced county allocations by \$22 million for the Children and Community Services Act, which was renamed the Vulnerable Children and Adults Act, impacting 50,000 people; reduced the Minnesota Family Investment Program Consolidated Fund by \$20 million, impacting 6,400 people per month receiving employment services and work supports.

*Eliminated \$6.7 million in Child Support Incentive Grants to counties and increased the Child Support Cost Recovery Fee from 1 percent to 2 percent of the monthly court-ordered child support and maintenance obligation for about 76,000 families, providing \$1.6 million in revenue.

*Improved quality of child care in unregulated settings by increasing training requirements for legal, non-licensed child care providers and improved integrity of the overall Child Care Assistance Program for all providers and participants.

*Reduced maximum rates paid under the Child Care Assistance Program to all providers by 2.5 percent and limits payment to legal non-licensed child care providers to 68 percent of the maximum child care rate for FY 2012-2013.

*Maintained General Assistance for most recipients; changed eligibility requirements, affecting 1,500 recipients on average per month, and updated other provisions to save \$3.3 million.

*Combined Emergency General Assistance and Emergency Minnesota Supplemental Aid reducing total funding by \$4.5 million

*Provided \$1.9 million for bonding for construction or renovation of early childhood learning and child protection facilities.

Monitoring a Conditional License

Portions of this article are taken from the License Renewal Report issued by DHS to Licensors:

An Order of Conditional License is issued when a license holder has failed to meet minimum standards of Minnesota Rules and Laws pertaining to their license, and the licensing agency has determined that it is in the best interests of the person served by the program for the program to continue operating. **When a license is made conditional, it is expected that the provider is amenable to change and will come into compliance with licensing requirements.**

A conditional license includes terms which the license holder must comply with. These terms are usually very specific and address issues that the license holder has had with non-compliance of rule and law. Some may include specific dates of documented completion. It is the provider's responsibility to submit documentation within identified deadlines.

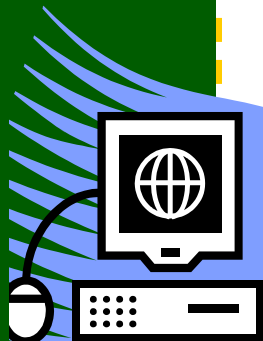
As the Commissioner's Delegated licensing authority, the St. Louis County is expected to monitor the Order of Conditional License with periodic **unannounced** visits. If violations are determined as a result of these visits, a correction order may be issued. Further negative

action may also be necessary.

If you are issued a conditional license, your individual licensor will work with you to ensure that the terms of the conditional license are met.

Providers are required to notify parents when a conditional license is issued. Negative licensing actions are public information and are required to be posted in the program.

If you have questions re: a conditional license, contact your licensor.



Free Webinars

This fall, the Working Family Resource Center in partnership with the MN Department of Education is offering the following free webinars - from noon to 1 p.m.

September 14, 2011

Parenting on Purpose: Red-Yellow-Green Model for Respectful Discipline
Presented by: Ada Alden, PhD

October 12, 2011

The Science of Early Brain Development and Child Development
Presented by: Amy Susman-Stillman, PhD

November 9, 2011

Understanding and Addressing Challenging Behaviors in Your Young Child
Presented by: Corinne Woosley

December 14, 2011

Welcome to Fatherhood! A Webinar for Expecting and New Dads (and those that care about them)
Presented by: Michael Jerpbak, PhD

To register for this or any webinar offered through Working Family Resource Center, please go to www.workingfam.org/events and click on the register button on the right hand side of the event.

To stay fully abreast of the latest efforts, information, and updates about the importance of families and the lives of children, you can surf the websites <http://www.extension.umn.edu> and/or <http://www.parenting.umn.edu> or better still, sign up for the

Family Education Network listserv at <http://www.extension.umn.edu/Parenting/components/fen.html>. It's free and comes right to your in-box! Find us on Facebook at: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Family-Education-Network/117480690329> and "Like" FEN for updates! The author of the messages sent to this list is solely responsible for the content of that message. The content, purpose or opinions expressed in messages are not necessarily those of the Family Education Network (FEN) network listserv members or the University of Minnesota Extension.

Feel free to pass it along to parents you work with.

CCR&R TRAININGS

CCR&R is once again offering low cost trainings in Duluth, Hibbing and Virginia. These trainings require 5 participants so grab your helpers, and fellow providers and sign up

together to ensure the training won't be cancelled. Take advantage of training offered close to home.

You are required to take 8 hours of training a year.

CCR&R Grant Deadlines

Dear Child Care Providers,

Remember, grants are available to support you and your program. Apply today at www.mnchildcare.org/grants to receive dollars to attend a training, purchase new equipment, or manage an emergen-

cy. Regional grant applications will be accepted through October 9, 2011.

Please let me know if I can answer any questions.

Sandra Sterling

SterlingS@pintech.edu
(320)629-5142



"A person's a person, no matter how small."
Dr. Seuss

Take It Outside: Continued



According to Center Director Mariah Burton Nelson, "We know that physical activity fosters muscular development, brain growth, and the maintenance of a healthy weight. When children 'take it outside,' they engage in physical activity, benefit from fresh air and sunshine, and learn to enjoy, respect and appreciate nature.

"Unfortunately children today spend less time playing outdoors than any previous generation," added Nelson. "We want to help early childhood educators and caregivers to discover the benefits of outdoor play and learn about outdoor play spaces that promote movement opportunities for children of all ability levels. When adults model and promote physical

activity, they set young children on a path toward a lifetime of healthful behaviors."

HSBS will provide programs and families with everything they need to celebrate Take It Outside! Week including activity ideas,

tips for facilitating active play, and suggestions for enhancing the environment. From Books That Move You to 15 Simple Ways to Get Moving, the activity resources are designed to increase physical activity for young children and promote family involvement. Here are a few fun suggestions: go on an acorn hunt, build forts and dens, make healthy apple snacks, add hay bales to the playground, go pumpkin or apple picking, fly a kite, go on a color orange hike and many more.

According to Bethe Almeras, HSBS education and outreach director, "fall is the perfect time of year to head out and enjoy the great outdoors! We hope that by celebrating Take It Outside! Week, educators and caregivers will experience

the many health and school readiness benefits that the natural world provides young children, and enjoy the benefits of time outdoors for themselves. We want this week to inspire them to make outdoor play and learning a part of children's daily lives."

"Your natural environment resources have made us really rethink the outside as a classroom," said Allison Driessen, director of Early Explorers Head Start and Early Head Start in north central North Dakota. "Our infant/toddler teachers really came alive because they have been given permission to explore mud puddles, go in the grass, check out bugs and encourage more movement. Keep up the great work."

Head Start and Early Head Start programs serve over one million children and their families monthly. For a wonderful array of free resources about Take It Outside! Week, visit <http://www.aahperd.org/headstartbodystart/news/take-it-outside-week-2011.cfm>

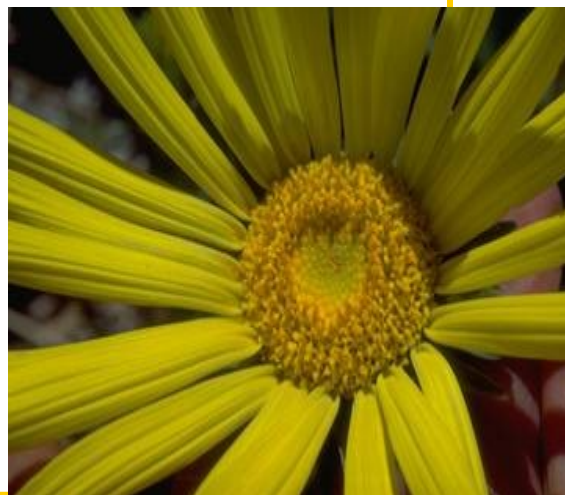
"Children are likely to live up to what you believe of them."

Lady Bird Johnson

Central Client Area

If you have been in the Duluth GSC building in the past few months, you have probably notice the construction going on. With the opening of the Central Client Area, the 3rd floor reception area has been closed. All visitors to GSC now check in at the first floor. If you have paperwork to deliver to the

Family Day Care Unit, you will need to turn it in at the Central Client Area. Remember to get a receipt from the clerk when you turn in paperwork also. If you have questions about this new procedure, please contact your licensor.





St. Louis County Licensors Contact Information

Phone 1-800-450-9777 + Ext. E-mail addresses

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Supervisor: Susan Sauls	2108	saulss@stlouiscountymn.gov
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CCAP Provider Issues:

Sue Marsy	2174
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General Childcare Email Address: childcare@stlouiscountymn.gov

CCR&R 1-800-890-5399 www.mnchildcare.org

Back To School Issues

By the time you receive this newsletter, your school-age children will be back in school. With the start of school comes many issues that you may not have thought of:

Where is the bus picking up/dropping off the children? Is it in sight of your home? If not, do you have written permission from parents for the children to be off site? Not only that, but when does your responsibility for those children begin and end? Are you responsible for the children as soon as they step off the bus, or when they come through your front door? Do you know which children are coming after school? Which kids have after school activities? Are some of your pre-schoolers in head-start/school readiness/preschool?

These are just a few of the questions you should ask yourself when planning your program for the school year.

When planning your day, remember that you need to stay within your license capacity. How are those school ages going to affect your numbers? Remember that you can't fill the school age spots with younger children.

Have a safe school year.

